

UTAH - WEEKLY INFLUENZA TEXT SUMMARY

Influenza Activity in Utah:

Laboratory confirmed influenza has been detected in Utah. This includes 50 hospitalizations, the majority in high risk categories. 72% of hospitalizations have been identified as Type A, 18% Type B, and 10% unknown. Influenza-like illness levels remain low, but are increasing in some areas.

As of 1/23/2008, no pediatric influenza-associated deaths has been reported in Utah for the current season.

National influenza surveillance data can be found at www.cdc.gov/flu. Please note, states determine for themselves how to estimate weekly influenza activity. The classification system used in Utah primarily serves to provide a geographical description of how influenza is circulating in the state and not season severity. Utah is currently reporting "local" activity.

This website will be updated every Wednesday at 1 PM.

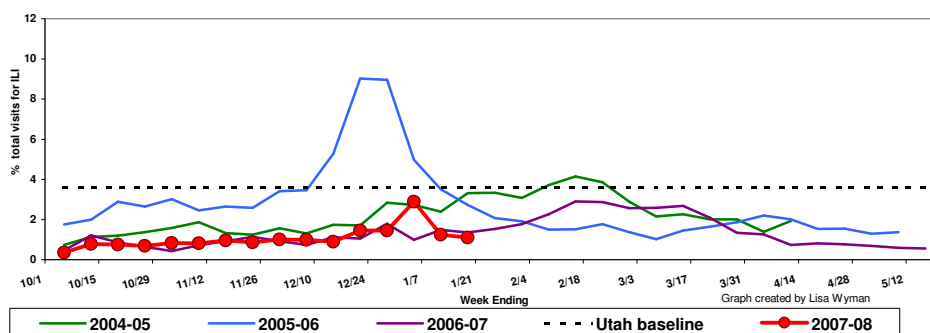
INFLUENZA PREVENTION

How to protect yourself and others:

1. Utahns should get an influenza vaccine.
**Contact your provider or the Immunization Hotline (1-800-275-0659) to locate an influenza shot.
2. All Utahns should practice "respiratory etiquette" to reduce the spread of respiratory diseases.
** Stay away from other people when you are sick.
** Cover your mouth and nose with a disposable tissue when you cough or sneeze. Throw the tissue away.
** Wash your hands.
3. We urge schools and employers to be supportive of these preventive measures.

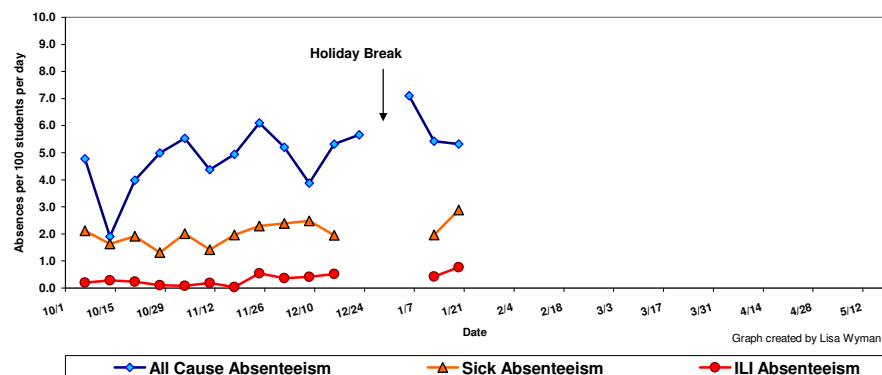
Influenza Activity for Current Season and Past Three Seasons

Figure 1. Percentage of visits for influenza-like illness (ILI) reported by sentinel providers- Utah, 2007-2008 and previous three influenza seasons



Student Absenteeism by Week

Figure 2. Rates for absences due to all causes and sickness, and influenza-like illness (ILI)- Utah, 2007-2008 influenza season



Hospitalizations by Virus Type and Week

Figure 3. Number of laboratory-confirmed, influenza-associated hospitalizations, by influenza virus type and week of event - Utah, 2007-2008 influenza season

